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/William R. Allen/

William R. Allen, Reg. No. 48,389

February 4, 2008

Date

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Toshiharu Furukawa et al
Serial No.: 10/733,974
Filed: December 11, 2003
Art Unit: 1792
Examiner: David P. Turocy
Confirmation No.: 1337
Title: METHODS AND STRUCTURES FOR PROMOTING STABLE
SYNTHESIS OF CARBON NANOTUBES
Atty Docket No.: ROC920030267US1

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

February 4, 2008

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants' undersigned counsel notes the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance attached with the Notice of Allowability mailed on January 25, 2008. The reasons set forth by the Examiner refer only to some of the features in independent claim and are not the only reasons that all of the claims are allowable.

With respect to independent claim 1, the prior art fails to disclose or suggest a method for mass producing carbon nanotubes, comprising: synthesizing a plurality of carbon nanotubes to a first length on a plurality of synthesis sites carried by a first substrate; interrupting the synthesis of the plurality of carbon nanotubes; supporting a free end of each of the plurality of

carbon nanotubes from a second substrate; separating the plurality of synthesis sites from the first substrate; and resuming the synthesis of the plurality of carbon nanotubes at the plurality of synthesis sites to lengthen the plurality of carbon nanotubes to a second length that is greater than the first length. Dependent claims 2-25 depend either directly or indirectly from independent claim 1. Accordingly, each of dependent claims 2-25 is believed to be allowable based upon at least the allowability of independent claim 1 and, furthermore, upon other features set forth in dependent claims 2-4 but not discussed herein.

If the Examiner disagrees with any of these comments, the Examiner is respectfully invited to provide further explanation on the record. Applicants do not believe fees are due in connection with filing this communication. If, however, any petition or additional fees are necessary because of this communication, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any under-payment or fees associated with this communication or credit any over-payment to Deposit Account No. 23-3000.

Respectfully submitted,
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